

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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(Use several sheets if necessary)

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Hisashi ICHIMURA et al.FILING DATE  
July 11, 2001GROUP  
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE   | NAME    | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF<br>APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|----|--------------------|--------|---------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| PK                   | AA | 4,214,330          | 7/1980 | Thorsen |       |          |                               |
|                      | AB |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AC |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AD |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AE |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AF |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AG |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |
|                      | AH |                    |        |         |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|    |    | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |   |
|----|----|--------------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-----------------------|---|
|    | AI | 50-126997          | 10/1975 | Japan   |       |          |                       | X |
|    | AJ | 55-142759          | 11/1980 | Japan   |       |          |                       | X |
| PK | AK | 3-19961            | 1/1991  | Japan   |       |          | Abstract              |   |
|    | AL | 10-72762           | 3/1998  | Japan   |       |          | Abstract              |   |
|    | AM | 2001-3238          | 1/2001  | Japan   |       |          | Abstract              |   |
| PK | AN | 2001-164460        | 6/2001  | Japan   |       |          | Abstract              |   |

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | AO |  |
|  | AP |  |
|  | AQ |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.